

Designing Libraries Conference Programme



10:00am – 4:30pm | Wednesday 17th June 2026
Swiss Cottage Library, 88 Avenue Road, London NW3 3HA

Morning Sessions

10:00 – 10:30: Registration and Coffee
10:30 – 10:35: Welcome
Cabinet Member Camden Libraries
10:35 – 10:45: Ayub Khan (Designing Libraries)
Welcome and Introductions
10:45 – 11:00: Baroness Twycross
(Minister for Libraries)

11:00 – 11:20: Karen Latimer
Key Challenges in Library Design
11:20 – 11:40: Laura Dyer (ACE)
Libraries and Place Making

11:40 – 12:00: Spotlight: Jan Kattein
Architect for Swiss Library Refurbishments
12:00 – 12:15: Melissa Turgut (PhD Student)
and Patricia Aelbrecht (Supervisor)
Libraries as Critical Social Infrastructure PhD
Cardiff University
12:15 – 13:15: Lunch and Exhibitor Networking

Afternoon Sessions

13:15 – 13:45: Philip Kent
International Perspective
(Chair of IFLA Library Design)
13:45 – 14:00: Emily Peasgood & Ben Allen
Inclusive Design and Co-Production
14:00 – 14:15: Ed Fay
Planning for a new Bristol University Library:
Highs and Lows
14:15 – 14:45: Coffee Break

14:45 – 15:45: Panel Session –
Emerging Trends in the Sector
(Chaired by Louis Coiffait-Gunn, CILIP)

- Isobel Hunter (Libraries Connected)
- Tina Morton (The National Archives)
- Tabitha Witherick (Libraries Rising)
- Ben Meunier (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)
- Emma Thompson (Manchester Metropolitan University/SCONUL)

15:45 – 16:00: Closing Remarks
Luke Burton (ACE)
16:00 – 16:30: Optional Tour
Fiona Tarn (Head of Camden Libraries)

Rob Green, Editor in Chief, Information Professional

**Information
Professional**

Media write up

[Book your ticket](#)